



NEWS RELEASE

IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

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BOARD SETS PLAN HEARING, REGULAR MEETINGS FOR APRIL 1 & 2 IN GRANGEVILLE

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The Idaho Water Resource Board will be in Grangeville Thursday and Friday (April 1 & 2) to hold a public hearing on the South Fork Clearwater River Basin plan and to also conduct its regular Board meeting, Board officials announced today.

Board members will conduct a special public hearing on the draft South Fork Clearwater plan on Thursday evening at 7:00 at the Senior Citizens Center on County Road (Truck Route) between Idaho and North State Streets.

Then on Friday the Board will conduct its regular meeting at which it will consider five requests for financial requests, planning activities and other matters. The meeting begins at 8:30 a.m. at the Clearwater Ranger District conference room located on East Highway 13 in Grangeville. The Board will also conduct a work session on Thursday starting at 1:00 p.m. at the same location.

All three activities are open to the public.

Thursday night's public hearing on the South Fork Clearwater Plan provides area residents the chance to give formal for or against testimony to the Board regarding the plan. The plan is now in its second version. If approved, the plan would also have to be approved by the Idaho Legislature.

The revised plan describes and evaluates the water resources and related economic, cultural and natural resources of the basin, and their current uses. It also contains the Board's recommendations for managing the water resources in the basin, and identifies stream reaches proposed for inclusion in the state's protected rivers system. The plan further identifies stream reaches for which the Board will consider applying for minimum stream flows.

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At its Friday morning meeting the Board will consider five requests for financial assistance. The requests are:

- A grant of \$7,500 and a loan of \$92,500 to the Twin Lakes Canal Company (Franklin County Near Preston) to examine the feasibility of a new water storage reservoir in the Oneida Narrows area of the Bear River;
- A grant of \$5,250 to the North Tomar Butte Water & Sewer District (Latah County east of Moscow) to do a water study;
- A grant of \$7,500 to the City of Kendrick (Latah County southeast of Moscow) for a water study;
- A grant of \$3,750 to the Clearwater Water District (Idaho County northeast of Grangeville) for a water improvement planning study; and
- A loan of \$430,000 to the Lower Payette Ditch Company (Western Payette County) to replace its Payette River diversion structure.

The public meeting and hearing will be conducted in facilities that meet the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you require special accommodations to attend, participate in or understand the presented material, please let Ms. Rita Fleck know in advance so arrangements can be made. The telephone number is (208) 327-7880.